

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

CLAIMS 1 – 13 (Cancelled)

CLAIM 14. ~~The method of claim 7~~ A method of manufacturing an earplug comprising:providing an earplug having a foam body free of detectable material;forming a channel in said foam body;placing a detectable insert in said channel; andallowing said foam body to encapsulate said detectable insert so that said foam body completely surrounds said detectable insert, wherein: said foam body is chilled.CLAIM 15. ~~The method of claim 13~~ A method of manufacturing an earplug comprising:providing an earplug having a foam body free of detectable material;forming a channel in said foam body;placing a detectable insert in said channel; andallowing said foam body to encapsulate said detectable insert so that said foam body completely surrounds said detectable insert, wherein said channel is formed by inserting a punch in said foam body and wherein: said channel is formed by a punch and said punch is chilled.

CLAIMS 16-23 (Cancelled)